

## [57] Abstract

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The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for separating particulate matter from a gaseous stream. According to the method, the gaseous stream containing the suspended particulates is passed into a separator apparatus which includes at least two multiple-inlet-multicyclones (16A – 16C), wherein the particulates are separated from the gas by centrifugal force. According to the invention, a separator apparatus is employed wherein at least two (16A – 16C) of the multiple-inlet cyclones are adapted to operate in parallel so as to form a multiple-inlet-multicyclone apparatus. The cyclone assembly according to the invention may be used as, e.g., the primary separator of an FCC unit, but more advantageously it serves as the secondary or tertiary separator of an FCC unit to remove "fines" from the flue gases of the preceding separation stages.

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